

IN THE CLAIMS

COMPLETE LISTING OF ALL CLAIMS, WITH MARKINGS AND STATUS IDENTIFIERS
(Currently amended claims showing deletions by ~~strike through~~ and additions by underlining)

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) A peptide comprising the amino acid sequence:

PX¹X²X³T [SEQ.ID.NO.:1]

wherein X¹, X², and X³ may be the same or different, and each represents an amino acid residue, with the proviso that the peptide is not a naturally-occurring full length protein.

2. (previously presented) The peptide according to claim 1 wherein (i) X² is selected from the group consisting of N and L, (ii) X¹ is selected from the group consisting of S, A, and P, and (iii) X³ is selected from the group consisting of S, K, T, and A.

3-11. (CANCELED)

12. **(CURRENTLY AMENDED)** The peptide according to claim 1, wherein said peptide is selected from the group consisting of ~~the amino acid sequence~~ PALKT [SEQ.ID.NO.:6], PSNST [SEQ.ID.NO.:8], PPNTT [SEQ.ID.NO.:9], STPPNTT [SEQ.ID.NO.:17], APSNSTA [SEQ.ID.NO.:15], and SPALKTV [SEQ.ID.NO.:16].

13. (previously presented) The peptide according to claim 2, said peptide having an A or V residue at the C terminus and/or an A, S, or T residue at the N terminus.

14-31. (CANCELED)

32. (previously presented) The peptide according to claim 2, wherein said peptide is comprised of from 7 to 30 amino acids.

33-34. (CANCELED)

35. (previously presented) The peptide according to claim 1, wherein X^1 , X^2 , and X^3 may be the same or different, and each represents an amino acid residue, and wherein the peptide is linked to a polycationic nucleic acid-binding component.

36-41. (CANCELED)

42. (previously presented) The peptide according to claim 35, wherein the peptide is linked to the polycationic nucleic acid-binding component via a spacer element.

43-50. (CANCELED)

51. (previously presented) A non-viral transfection mixture comprising:

- (i) a lipid component,
- (ii) a polycationic nucleic acid-binding component, and
- (iii) a peptide comprising the amino acid sequence $PX^1X^2X^3T$ [SEQ.ID.NO.:1],

wherein X^1 , X^2 , and X^3 may be the same or different, and each represents an amino acid residue.

52-53. (CANCELED)

54. (previously presented) The mixture according to claim 51, wherein the lipid component comprises one or more lipids selected from the group consisting of cationic lipids, lipids having membrane destabilising properties, and lipids having fusogenic properties.

55-64. (CANCELED)

65. (previously presented) A non-viral transfection complex comprising:

- (i) a nucleic acid,
- (ii) a lipid component,
- (iii) a polycationic nucleic acid-binding component, and
- (iv) a peptide comprising the amino acid sequence $PX^1X^2X^3T$ [SEQ.ID.NO.:1],

wherein X^1 , X^2 , and X^3 may be the same or different, and each represents an amino acid residue.

66-75. (CANCELED)

76. (previously presented) A process for the production of a complex according to claim 65, which comprises admixing components (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) in the following order: lipid component, peptide, polycationic nucleic acid binding component, and nucleic acid.

77-79. (CANCELED)

80. (previously presented) A non-viral transfection complex comprising:

- (i) a nucleic acid,
- (ii) a polycationic nucleic acid-binding component, and
- (iii) a peptide comprising the amino acid sequence $PX^1X^2X^3T$ [SEQ.ID.NO.:1] wherein X^1 , X^2 , and X^3 may be the same or different, and each represents an amino acid residue.

81-83. (CANCELED)

84. (previously presented) A viral vector including a nucleic acid sequence encoding the peptide according to claim 1.

85-96. (CANCELED)

97. (previously presented) A method of transfecting a cell with a nucleic acid, which method comprises contacting the cell *in vitro* or *in vivo* with the transfection complex according to claim 65 or claim 80, or a viral vector according to claim 84.

98. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the transfection complex according to claim 65 or claim 80 or a viral vector according to claim 84, said composition being in admixture or conjunction with a pharmaceutically suitable carrier.

99. (previously presented) A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a condition caused in human or in a non-human animal by a defect and/or a deficiency in a gene, which method comprises administering the transfection complex according to claim 65 or claim 80 or viral vector according to claim 84 to the human or to the non-human animal.

100. (previously presented) A method for the therapeutic or prophylactic immunisation of a human or of a non-human animal, which method comprises administering the transfection complex according to claim 65 or claim 80 or the viral vector according to claim 84 to the human or to the non-human animal.

101. (previously presented) A method of anti-sense therapy, which method comprises administering the transfection complex according to claim 65 or claim 80 or the viral vector according to claim 84 to a human or to a non-human animal.

102-104. (CANCELED)

105. (previously presented) A kit comprising:

- (i) a nucleic acid,
- (ii) a polycationic nucleic acid-binding component, and
- (iii) a peptide comprising the amino acid sequence $PX^1X^2X^3T$ [SEQ.ID.NO.:1],

wherein X^1 , X^2 , and X^3 may be the same or different, and each represents an amino acid residue, and, optionally,

- (iv) a lipid component.

106. (previously presented) A bispecific antibody that is capable of binding to a virus and to the peptide according to claim 1.

107. (previously presented) A fusion protein comprising a peptide comprising the amino acid sequence $PX^1X^2X^3T$ [SEQ.ID.NO.:1], wherein X^1 , X^2 , and X^3 may be the same or different, and each represents an amino acid residue, and an antibody that is capable of binding to a virus.

108-109. (CANCELED)

110. (NEW) The peptide according to claim 2, wherein X^2 is N.

111. (NEW) The peptide according to claim 12, wherein the peptide consists of the amino acid sequence APSNSTA [SEQ. ID. NO.:15].